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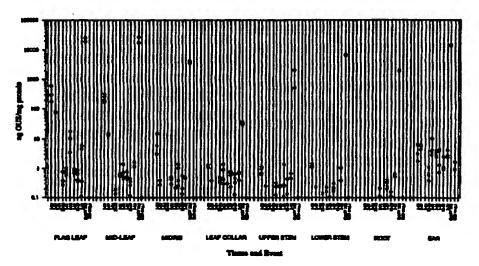
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(54) Title: MAIZE PROMOTER SEQUENCE FOR LEAF- AND STALK-PREFERRED GENE EXPRESSION

Table 1: pMS8-15 Promoter GUS Expression in T1 Maize Tissues



(57) Abstract

This invention relates generally to mechanisms of gene expression in plants and more specifically to regulation of expression of genes in plants in a "tissue-preferred" manner. Regulation of expression is achieved using a transcriptional regulatory unit capable f driving expression of genes within certain tissues of a plant. Said transcriptional regulatory unit are t be utilized for driving expression of genes effective in the control of insect r other pests which threaten plants.

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MAIZE PROMOTER SEQUENCE FOR LEAF- AND STALK-PREFERRED GENE EXPRESSION

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

This invention relates generally to mechanisms of gene expression in plants and more specifically to regulation of expression of genes in plants in a "tissue-preferred" manner. Regulation of expression is achieved using a transcriptional regulatory unit capable of driving expression of genes within certain tissues of a plant. Said transcriptional regulatory unit will ultimately be utilized for driving expression of genes that confer a selective advantage to a plant.

Description of the Related Art

Transcriptional control elements that drive "tissue-general" or "constitutive" gene expression in plants have been described. Examples include the promoters of the Agrobacterium nopaline synthase gene (Depicker, et al. 1982) and the maize ubiquitin gene (Christensen, et al. 1992). These promoters have been well characterized and utilized for driving gene expression in transgenic plants [e.g., CaMV 35S (Odell et al. 1985)]. There exists both an increasing interest in co-transforming plants with multiple plant transcription units and a realization of several potential problems associated with this technique. Concerns associated with the utilization of common regulatory sequences to drive expression of multiple genes include, but are not restricted to: a) recombination resulting from pairing along homologous regions, cross-overs and loss of the intervening region either prior to (in the case of a plasmid) or post-integration; b) hairpin loops caused by two copies of the sequence in opposite orientation adjacent to each other, again with possibilities of excision and loss of these regulatory regions; c) competition among different copies of the same promoter region for binding of promoter-specific transcription factors or other regulatory DNA-binding proteins, d) the relative strengths of expression of different promoters either within or between species, wherein one promoter may provide optimum levels of expression for one gene in a certain cell type or species, but may be either too strong or too weak for providing the required level of expression of a

different gene in a certain cell type or species.

As part of our efforts to provide mechanisms for regulating the expression of genes that will ultimately be used for control of insect pests, primarily Ostrinia nubilalis, the European corn borer (ECB), we have been isolating and/or characterizing clones that exhibit intermediate to strong expression in the tissues that ECB primarily feeds on or tunnels through during its life cycle; these tissues include leaves, the leaf collar, the stalk rind and pith, and in the case of second generation ECB, pollen (Showers et al., 1989). While constitutive or "non-tissue-preferred" promoters have been demonstrated to be effective for this purpose such as the CAMV 35S promoter driving the Bacillus thuringiensis crylA(b) gene provided effective ECB control in the field (Koziel et al., 1993), there are several advantages to utilizing promoters that function in a tissuepreferred manner. These include reduced resource drain on the plant in making a gene product constitutively, as well as localization or compartmentalization of gene expression in cases where the gene product must to be restricted to, or from, a certain tissue(s). Said gene products may include general cellular inhibitors such as RNases or other cytotoxins. As an example, Mariani, et al (Nature 347:737, 1990) engineered vectors that exhibited anther-specific gene expression of such inhibitor genes for use in male sterility systems, since expression in regions other that the anther in a plant would be toxic. As an example of tissue-preferred expression, Koziel et al. (1993) utilized a combination of the maize PEP carboxylase promoter and a pollen promoter each driving cryIA(b) expression in separate constructs resulting in the generation of ECB-tolerant corn plants.

There is a need in the art for novel transcriptional regulatory elements which are capable of driving tissue-preferred gene expression in plants. It is considered important by those skilled in the art to continue to provide tissue-preferred transcription units capable of driving expression of genes that may confer a selective advantage to a plant.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

This invention provides a transcriptional regulatory region of a gene that will be utilized to construct an expression vector for directing "tissue-preferred" gene expression in plants transformed with said expression vector such that said plants will retain a selective advantage over non-transformed plants. Said selective advantage may be conferred to said plants by expression of a gene encoding a polypeptide that confers

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resistance to insect or other pests. There exists a need in the art for transcriptional regulatory elements of plant genes which drive expression of said genes specifically or preferably within certain tissues of a plant. Such transcriptional units are defined to function in a "tissue-preferred" manner. The present invention relates to the isolation, characterization and utilization of a transcriptional regulatory region of a plant gene which is expressed in a tissue-preferred manner. The invention includes a method of isolation of plant tissue-preferred genes, isolated and purified DNA molecules comprising plant tissue-preferred genes or fragments thereof, methods of preparation of vectors comprising tissue-preferred transcriptional regulatory regions, and methods of generating transgenic plants comprising reporter or effector genes under the transcriptional control of a tissue-preferred transcriptional regulatory region.

It is an object of the invention to provide a method for cloning of genes expressed in a tissue-preferred manner in plants.

It is another object of the invention to provide DNA molecules representing genes or fragments thereof which are expressed in a tissue-preferred manner.

It is yet another object of the invention to provide DNA molecules representing a transcriptional regulatory region of a gene which is expressed in a tissue-preferred manner.

It is also an object of the invention to provide a reporter construct useful for testing the ability of said transcriptional regulatory region to drive expression of a reporter gene in a tissue-preferred manner in vivo.

It is another object of the invention to provide a method useful for testing the ability of said transcriptional regulatory region to drive expression of a reporter gene in a "tissue-preferred manner in vivo.

It is a further object of the invention to provide DNA molecules that will be useful in the control of plant pests.

In one embodiment, a method for cloning plant genes that are expressed in a tissue-preferred manner is provided. The method comprises the construction of cDNA libraries using RNA of various tissues and screening said cDNA libraries with labelled mRNA from said various tissues. Clones are then isolated that represent mRNA species whose expression is upregulated in at least one tissue of said plant. In this manner, cDNA clones that represent mRNAs expressed in a tissue-preferred pattern are identified.

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In another embodiment of the invention an isolated and purified subchromosomal DNA molecule is provided which contains a MS8-15 open reading frame (ORF) as shown in SEQ ID No. 1 and Figure 2.

In yet another embodiment, a transcriptional regulatory region of a said tissuepreferred gene is determined. A method comprising identification and characterization of a transcriptional regulatory region of said gene expressed in a tissue-preferred manner is provided.

In one embodiment of the invention an isolated and purified subchromosomal DNA molecule is provided comprising a transcriptional regulatory region of a MS8-15 gene is provided as shown in SEQ ID 2 and Figure 3.

In another embodiment of the invention a method is provided whereby said transcriptional regulatory region is isolated by PCR using synthetic oligonucleotides complementary to a region on said transcriptional regulatory region of said gene expressed in a tissue-preferred manner. In a preferred embodiment of the invention, said oligonucleotides each include at least one restriction enzyme excision site for convenient cloning into plant expression vectors.

In yet another embodiment of the invention, an isolated and purified subchromosomal DNA molecule is provided that contains a MS8-15 transcriptional regulatory region isolated by PCR using MS8-15 specific oligonucleotides. The sequence of said DNA molecule is shown in SEQ ID No. 3 and Figure 4.

In another embodiment of the invention, a cloning vector comprising a MS8-15 transcriptional regulatory region is provided, as shown in Figure 5.

In yet another embodiment of the invention, an expression vector in which expression of an assayable gene product is under the control of a MS8-15 transcriptional regulatory region is provided, as shown in Figure 6.

In still another embodiment of the invention, transgenic plants useful in the identification of tissues in which a MS8-15 transcriptional regulatory region drives gene expression of an assayable product is provided. Said transgenic plants are useful to analyze the ability of a MS8-15 transcriptional regulatory region to drive tissue-preferred gene expression *in vivo*.

These and other objects of the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art from the following detailed description of a preferred embodiment of the invention.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

- Figure 1. Northern blot of total RNA from different maize tissues probed with an internal fragment of the pMS8-15 cDNA clone. The pMS8-15 cDNA clone was isolated using differential library screening of gene expression in specific tissues of maize and cloning of cDNAs which represent genes exhibiting a tissue-preferred pattern of expression. The northern blot in this figure demonstrates the tissue-preferred pattern of expression of one such clone, pMS8-15.
- 10 Figure 2. Sequence of the MS8-15 cDNA insert showing the MS8-15 open reading frames (ORF). The pMS8-15 cDNA clone was completely sequenced and the nucleotide and deduced amino acid sequence is disclosed in this figure. In addition to a complete MS8-15 ORF, two additional partial ORFs were identified within the pMS8-15 cDNA clone. The amino acid sequence of the complete ORF as well as that of the partial ORFs are shown. The partial ORF demonstrates homology to the GRP90 homologue as illustrated.
 - Figure 3. Sequence of the MS8-15 5' upstream (promoter) region including a short portion of the coding sequence. A portion of the MS8-15 coding region from the pMS8-15 cDNA clone was utilized to probe a maize genomic library. A clone was isolated which contained nucleotide sequence of a 5' region of a MS8-15 gene and is shown in this figure.
 - Figure 4. Sequence of PCR amplified MS8-15 promoter. A portion of the 5' upstream region of a MS8-15 gene (the MS8-15 promoter) was amplified by PCR using oligonucleotides complementary to the sequence of a MS8-15 gene. Said oligonucleotides each include at least one restriction enzyme site for cloning of the PCR-amplified DNA into cloning and expression vectors.
- Figure 5. Map of the Vector pPHI8245 which contains the MS8-15 PROMOTER

 (shown in Figure 4) cloned into pBlueScriptII(SK+).

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Figure 6. Map of pPHI5933 containing the MS8-15 promoter driving expression of the GUS reporter gene, and including the PinII 3' terminator sequence. A reporter gene, uidA (GUS) was cloned in a downstream cis orientation relative to the MS8-15 promoter to generate the expression vector pPHI5933. The uidA gene encodes an assayable gene product.

Table I. pMS8-15 Promoter GUS Expression in T1 Maize Tissues. Transgenic maize plants which have incorporated into their genome the pPHI5933 expression vector were harvested and various tissues assayed for *uidA* (GUS) expression. The data indicate a "green-tissue preferred" pattern of expression driven by the MS8-15 promoter.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Within this application, a <u>transcriptional regulatory region</u> is defined as any element involved in regulating transcription of a gene, including but not limited to promoters, enhancers and repressors.

A <u>DNA fragment</u> is defined as a segment of a single- or double-stranded DNA derived from any source.

A <u>DNA construct</u> is defined as a plasmid, virus, autonomously replicating sequence, phage or linear segment of a single- or double-stranded DNA or RNA derived from any source.

A gene product that confers a <u>selective advantage</u> to a plant is defined as any gene product which, upon expression in said plant, confers increased growth rate, yield of product or resistance to threats to said plant's ability to thrive including but not limited to pathogens, pests, adverse weather conditions, and herbicides relative to plants that do not express said gene product.

The term <u>operably linked</u> refers to the combination of a first nucleic acid fragment representing a transcriptional control region having activity in a cell joined to a second nucleic acid fragment encoding a reporter or effector gene such that expression of said reporter or effector gene is influenced by the presence of said transcriptional control region.

A gene expressed in a tissue-preferred manner is that which demonstrates a greater amount of expression in one tissue as opposed to one or more second tissues in a plant

specimen.

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A gene defined as green-tissue preferred is a gene that is expressed at a higher level in plant organs at least partially comprised of cells exhibiting chlorophyll synthesis.

A regenerable culture is defined as a cell or tissue culture that can be manipulated so as to allow regeneration of plants.

<u>Transgenic plant</u> defines a plant in which a gene has been added to the germline of said plant.

A <u>mature plant</u> is defined as a plant in which normal development of all vegetative and reproductive organs has occurred.

A gene product useful in controlling pests defines any gene that functions to inhibit the growth, migration, existence or behavior of any pest that may threaten the normal life cycle of one or more organisms.

An <u>assayable product</u> includes any product encoded by a gene that is detectable using an assay. Furthermore, the detection and quantitation of said assayable product is anticipated to be directly proportional to the level of expression of said gene.

A <u>reporter construct</u> is defined as a subchromosomal and purified DNA molecule comprising a gene encoding an assayable product.

An <u>expression vector</u> is defined as a subchromosomal and purified DNA molecule comprising a transcriptional regulatory region driving expression of a gene.

To isolate transcriptional regulatory regions useful for driving tissue-preferred expression of effector genes in plants, it is necessary to identify genes that demonstrate a tissue-preferred pattern of expression in plants. One method of identification is PCR-based differential display analysis (Liang, et al. Science 257:967). This methodology involves the use of random oligonucleotide primers, PCR-amplification of RT-cDNA and comparison of patterns of expression between at least two samples. Said samples may include but are not limited to different types of cells or tissues, cells or tissues in various stages of development, or cells or tissues that have been exposed to various chemicals or conditions and may result in a change in gene expression in said cells or tissues. Non-identical DNA banding patterns of DNA amplified from said samples indicate a difference in gene expression between samples. DNA corresponding to the bands which exhibit said non-identical DNA banding patterns are cloned and utilized to identify the genes to which the DNA bands correspond. An alternative method involves the use of subtractive

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hybridization (Lee, et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 88:2825). This methodology involves the hybridization of cDNA (antisense) of sample A and biotinylated-RNA of sample B. Biotinylated-RNA molecules of sample B representing genes expressed in both samples will hybridize to the complementary cDNA molecules of sample A and will be destroyed by subsequent enzymatic treatment. Following purification of the remaining biotinylated RNA molecules of sample B, a cDNA library is constructed using said remaining biotinylated RNA of sample B. The clones of said cDNA library represent genes that are preferentially expressed in sample B. A further method is by screening of a cDNA library of a first sample using labelled RNA representing a second sample. Clones of said cDNA library of said first sample that do not hybridize to said labelled RNA of said second sample represent mRNA species that are not expressed in said second sample. Alternatively, several libraries may be individually screened using labelled RNA from several separate samples. If said samples are different tissues of a plant, altered patterns of hybridization in one sample as compared to another sample indicates a tissue-preferred pattern of gene expression. cDNA clones isolated in the above-described manner will represent mRNA species that are preferentially expressed in a sample or a group of samples.

It is then necessary to confirm that a cDNA isolated by any of the above-described techniques or any other technique resulting in the isolation of potentially tissue-preferred plant genes is expressed in a tissue-preferred manner. RT-PCR is a method by which mRNA represented by a potentially tissue-preferred cDNA is amplified from a cell or tissue of interest (Berchtold, et al. Nuc. Acids Res. 17:453). Amplification of said mRNA from several different tissues allows for a comparison to be made and the relative level of expression of mRNA of said potentially tissue-preferred plant gene to be determined. Another method which may be utilized to determine the level of gene expression in a plant cell or plant tissue is RNase protection assays (Melton, et al. Nuc. Acids Res. 12:7035). RNA from the samples to be compared is hybridized to a labelled antisense RNA probe generated from a cDNA representing a mRNA of a plant gene potentially expressed in a tissue-specific manner. This is followed by the addition of RNase. All RNA which has hybridized to said labelled antisense RNA probe is protected from degradation (termed protected transcripts) by the RNase while mRNA that has not hybridized to said antisense labelled RNA probe is degraded. The products are then separated by gel electrophoresis

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and protected transcripts detected using detection methods including but not limited to autoradiography. The relative intensity of the band corresponding to said protected transcripts is proportional to the level of expression of that protected RNA species in each tissue. An additional method with which tissue-preferred expression may be determined is by northern blot analysis (Alwine, et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 74:5350). RNA from a sample of interest is isolated and separated by gel electrophoresis. The separated RNA species are then transferred to a membrane and probed with a labeled nucleic acid probe that is complementary to RNA representing a gene of interest. Hybridization is detected using a detection method including but not limited to autoradiography. The intensity of the band corresponding to RNA representing a gene of interest is determined and is proportional to the level of gene expression in each sample. A tissue-preferred gene is identified by increased hybridization in one tissue as compared to a second tissue of a plant.

It is then desirable to isolate the transcriptional regulatory region responsible for driving expression of said gene of interest in a tissue-preferred manner. This region may be isolated by several methods including but not limited to amplification of a region of DNA comprising said transcriptional regulatory region. Said DNA is amplified from genomic DNA maintained as a genomic DNA library in a cloning vector including but not limited to phage, plasmids, cosmids, yeast artificial chromosomes (YAC) or any other vector capable of harboring fragments of chromosomal DNA. Said transcriptional regulatory region of said gene expressed in a tissue-preferred manner may be isolated by amplification of the genomic sequences encoding the cDNA sequence. Two oligonucleotide primers, the first comprising sequence complementary to a region within the nucleotide sequence of said cloning vector and the second comprising sequence complementary to a 5' region of said cDNA encoding a gene expressed in a tissuepreferred manner, are utilized in a PCR reaction. The template for said PCR reaction comprises a portion of said genomic DNA library. Amplification products may include but are not limited to DNA comprising a 5' transcriptional regulatory region of said gene of interest, the remaining 3' sequence of said cDNA including a 3' untranslated region, or fragments thereof. DNA sequencing of each amplified product results in identification of those clones comprising a potential transcriptional regulatory region (Frohman, et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 85:8998). A further method for isolation of the transcriptional region of a

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gene expressed in a tissue-preferred manner includes utilization of the cDNA or fragment thereof encoding the gene of interest as a cDNA probe to screen said genomic DNA library by hybridization. Clones which demonstrate hybridization to said cDNA probe are isolated and characterized by restriction enzyme mapping and nucleotide sequence analysis.

To construct expression vectors useful for testing the transcriptional regulatory region of a gene expressed in a tissue-preferred manner, the elements responsible for said ability to drive tissue-preferred gene expression are determined and isolated. elements are then inserted into the transcriptional control region of an expression vector such that said transcriptional control region is linked in cis to a gene encoding an assayable product. Said assayable product may include but is not limited to beta-glucuronidase (GUSTm). luciferase, beta-galactosidase, green fluorescent protein (GFP) or chloramphenicol acetyltransferase (CAT). Said elements responsible for tissue-preferred gene expression are isolated using methods including but not limited to the following procedures. Nucleotide sequence and restriction enzyme maps of said genomic clones that demonstrate hybridization to said cDNA probe are determined. Using restriction enzyme digestion and subcloning methods well known to those skilled in the art, expression vectors are constructed comprising various regions of said genomic clone linked in cis to a gene encoding said assayable product to generate an expression vector in which expression of an assayable product is driven by said various regions of said genomic clone. A further method includes the utilization of an oligonucleotide comprising nucleotide sequence complementary to the 5' region of said transcriptional control region of said gene expressed in a tissue-preferred manner and an oligonucleotide comprising nucleotide sequence complementary to a 3' transcriptional control region of said gene expressed in a tissue-preferred manner are synthesized. Preferably, each oligonucleotide further comprises nucleotide sequence corresponding to restriction enzyme sites compatible for cloning into an expression vector encoding an assayable product. Following amplification of DNA comprising the transcriptional control region, cloning of said region into said expression vector is accomplished using techniques well known in the art. Use of the above-described methodologies results in the construction of expression vectors comprising separate potential transcriptional control regions linked in cis to a gene encoding an assayable gene product.

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To confirm that said transcriptional control region functions in a tissue-preferred manner in plant tissues, said expression vector comprising a transcriptional control region of a gene expressed in a tissue-preferred manner in plants linked in cis to an assayable product is transfected into plant cells or tissues. The method utilized for transfection of various types of plant cells or plant tissues may include but is not limited to particle bombardment, liposome-mediated transfection, calcium phosphate-mediated transfection, bacterial- or viral-mediated gene transfer, electroporation, or Argobacterium-mediated transformation. Said various cells or tissues may be transfected in vitro after excision from said plant. Following a defined period of time after transfection of said construct into said tissues, the tissues are harvested and an assay capable of detecting said assayable product is performed. The amount of assayable product detected in said cells or tissues is proportional to the ability of said transcriptional control region to function in that cell or tissue. In this manner, the ability of said transcriptional regulatory region to drive tissuepreferred gene expression is determined. Alternatively, said cells or tissues may be utilized to generate a transgenic plant. Said transgenic plants have at least one copy of said expression vector comprising said transcriptional control region linked in cis to a gene encoding an assayable product incorporated into the genome of the plant. Said copy is therefore present in each cell and tissue of said transgenic plant. Harvest of said tissues is followed by assay of said tissues for expression of said assayable product. The amount of said assayable product in each of said tissues is determined and is proportional to the level of expression of said gene encoding said assayable product in each of said tissues. In this manner, the ability of the transcriptional control region of said cDNA to drive tissuepreferred gene expression is determined.

The ability of said transcriptional control region to drive tissue-prefered expression of genes may also be tested by the generation of transgenic plants in which the transgene comprises a tissue-preferred transcriptional control region driving expression of an effector gene that confers a selective advantage to those plants comprising said transgene. Said transgenic plants are allowed to mature and are then challenged by a pest which may exhibit a response to expression of said effector gene in a plant. Preferably, the pest is selected from a group of pests which are present for at least a portion of their lifespan in a tissue in which said transcriptional control region drives gene expression. The behavior of said pest is demonstrated to be altered in those tissues in which the effector gene is

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expressed. The change in said behavior of said pest includes but is not limited to altered growth characteristics, inability to thrive, or death. An example of one such effector gene is the *cry IA(b)* gene that has been demonstrated to function in the generation of plants resistant to the European Corn Borer (Koziel, 1993).

Said transcriptional control region may also be utilized to drive expression of genes involved in other aspects of plant physiology including but not limited to resistance to pests other than insects, resistance to herbicides, growth of the plant, resistance of fruits or vegetables to spoiling, or resistance to adverse weather conditions. Said pests other than insects may also include but are not limited to bacteria, parasites, fungi, viral agents, viroids including but not limited to the fungi, fusarium and fumonsin, or the virus known as the Tobacco Mosaic Virus. The growth characteristics of a plant include but are not limited to those that result in the production of increased amounts of fruit, increased amounts of seed, growth at either a faster or a slower rate, or growth in a season other than that considered ordinary for said plant. Adverse weather conditions to which the plant may become resistant include but are not limited to temperatures above or below that which the plant is not ordinarily able to survive, flooding, and drought.

The following examples illustrate particular embodiments of the present invention and are not limiting of the specification and claims in any way.

20 EXAMPLE 1. Isolation and characterization of the cDNA clone MS8-15.

To isolate a tissue-preferred gene from maize, four cDNA libraries were constructed and utilized for differential screening to identify cDNA clones which exhibit tissue-specific patterns of expression. RNA was isolated from 1 week old roots, 1 week and 8 week old stalks and 4 week old wounded leaf tissue of Zea mays L. (cv.B73) by standard methods. Briefly, tissues were ground to a powder in liquid nitrogen, resuspended in buffer (100 mM LiCl, 100 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 100 mM EDTA, 1% SDS), extracted with phenol:chloroform:isoamyl alcohol (25:24:1), and the supernatant was incubated overnight with 2 M (final concentration) LiCl. The RNA was ethanol precipitated, washed and resuspended in sterile RNAase-free water. Poly(A)+ mRNA was isolated using oligo(dT) cellulose chromatography (Aviv and Leder, 1972) and utilized to construct cDNA libraries in the LambdaGEM-4 vector (Promega, Madison, WI) using a cDNA synthesis kit (Boehringer Manheim, Indianapolis, IN). Briefly, a poly(dT) primer

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containing extra bases at the 5' end which included the recognition sequence for Xbal was annealed to the poly(A) tail of the mRNA and cDNA was synthesized using reverse transcriptase. Second strand synthesis was followed by addition of an EcoRI linker to the 5' end of the double stranded cDNA and subsequent directional cloning into the LambdaGEM-4 vector.

Approximately 1 x 10⁶ plaques from each library were plated and differentially screened using labeled poly(A) mRNA from the other tissues as probes (Negruk et al., J. Virol. Meth. 1:229, 1980). In the process of selecting for plaques exhibiting tissue-preferred expression patterns, some plaques were identified which, following secondary and tertiary screening, hybridized strongly to leaf and stalk tissue probes. One such clone, termed pMS8-15, was selected for further analysis.

It was necessary to confirm that the pMS8-15 cDNA clone represented an mRNA species which was expressed in a tissue-preferred manner in a plant. RNA isolated from various maize tissues was probed with the pMS8-15 probe to assay the tissue-preferred expression patterns of the MS8-15 mRNA. Two grams of tissue from a number of maize (cv.B73) tissues including 11 week old leaf blade, leaf whorl, leaf collar, stalk rind, stalk pith, stalk node, and seedling roots were frozen in liquid nitrogen and total RNA isolated using TRI REAGENT (Molecular Research Center, Inc., Cincinnati, OH) as indicated by the supplier. Eight grams of maize kernels at 4, 14 and 27 days post pollination were frozen in liquid nitrogen and total RNA was isolated as described by Wessler (1994). The RNA was resuspended in formamide and concentrations adjusted to 5 ug/ul. Approximately 10 ug of each RNA was run on a 1.4% formaldehyde denaturing gel. Samples were heated to 65°C prior to loading and were run in a formaldehyde-based running buffer. The gel was then washed for 30 minutes in DEPC-treated double-distilled water and then photographed. Gels were transferred to Magna Charge membrane (MSI, Westborough, MA) by capillary blotting overnight. Membranes were then baked at 80°C for one hour and subjected to UV cross-linking using a Stratalinker (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA). Membranes were prehybridized for two hours in 50% formamide, 5X Denhardt's, 5X SSPE and 0.1% SDS containing 200 ug/ml heat-denatured herring sperm DNA and 50 ug/ml tRNA. DNA probes were labeled with ³²P-dCTP using a random primed labeling kit (Boehringer Manheim, Indianapolis, IN). Probe DNA was denatured at 95°C for 10 minutes, added to the membranes in fresh prehybridization solution, and allowed to

hybridize overnight at 42°C. Blots were washed in 2X SSC, 0.1% SDS twice for 20 minutes at 65°C followed by two washes in 0.1X SSC, 0.1% SDS twice for 20 minutes at 65°C. Membranes were rinsed briefly in water, then wrapped in cellophane and subjected to autoradiography at -80°C using Kodak XAR5 film and two intensifying screens.

Northern blot analysis in which total RNA from a broad range of maize tissues was hybridized with the pMS8-15 cDNA clone insert revealed differential hybridization in a number of the tissues examined (Figure 1). Hybridizing bands are present in most tissues, with the strongest signals present in leaf and stalk node RNA. The hybridizing band corresponds to an mRNA of approximately 1.1 to 1.2 kb in size. A second mRNA (approx. 1.4 kb) appears to be expressed in maturing seed and to a lesser extent in whorl and pith tissue. This observation agrees with Southern blot results (not shown) which indicate that there are likely two genes showing significant homology to the cDNA insert (data not shown). These results suggested that the promoter for the pMS8-15 clone might be useful in driving expression of genes in a leaf/stalk-preferred manner, and thus may be suitable for driving expression of genes such as those useful for control of the European corn borer.

In an attempt to identify the MS8-15 gene, the 1.207 kb pMS8-15 cDNA insert was completely sequenced in both directions by the dideoxy chain termination method (Sanger et al., 1977) using multiple primers along the length of the cDNA clone (Figure 2) SEQ ID NO:1). Complete sequencing of the 1.207 kb pMS8-15 cDNA clone and subsequent comparison of the internal uninterrupted ORF to sequences in the GenEMBL and Swissprot databases using the BLAST protocol revealed no significant sequence similarity to any known gene sequences. Analysis did reveal that the 8-15 insert was in fact a fusion of three open reading frames. The first two hundred bases (approximate) showed 87% homology at the nucleotide level and greater than 90% at the amino acid level to a Hordeum vulgare (Barley) cDNA coding for a GRP90 homologue. The last 50 bases also showed 100% homology to a rat alcohol dehydrogenase cDNA. While it appears that these two additional partial cDNAs were incorporated into the pMS8-15 clone during the cloning process, all characterization was completed using the sequences corresponding to the pMS8-15 ORF. The complete MS8-15 internal open reading frame indicated some homology to several ESTs from rice, one from maize and one from Arabidopsis, these having no defined function to date. It cannot be determined if the

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observed sequence identity would reflect functional similarity without full characterization of the various gene products. Emphasis for promoter isolation concentrated on the internal unidentified ORF since said ORF represented the largest full-length ORF and comprised the region of DNA utilized as a probe in northern blot analysis. A genomic clone corresponding to MS8-15 was isolated, sequenced and characterized.

To determine the transcriptional regulatory region of the MS8-15 gene, the pMS8-15 cDNA was utilized to isolate genomic clones representing the MS8-15 gene. A 1.25 kb EcoRI/Xbal fragment was isolated from the pMS8-15 cDNA clone and labeled with digoxigenin-11-dUTP by the random primer method using the protocol exactly as outlined in the GeniusTM system users guide (Boehringer Manheim, Indianapolis, IN). Approximately 1 x 106 plaques from a maize genomic library constructed in lambda DASH (Stratagene, LaJolla, CA) were screened using the combined labeled fragments as a probe. and two positive clones were recovered. DNA from each of the two genomic clones was isolated and digested with a number of restriction enzymes (several of which cut internally in the cDNA), separated on a 1% agarose gel, transferred onto membranes and hybridized with the digoxigenin labeled 1.25 kb EcoRI/XbaI fragment. The two clones (15-30 and 34-1) are identical. A 4.7 kb EcoRI and a 6.0 kb SalI fragment from each genomic clone was isolated and subcloned. The EcoRI cloned fragment was further subjected to multiple single and double digests which allowed generation of a partial restriction map, from which two fragments, a 1.7 kb EcoRI/NotI and a 3.0 kb EcoRI/NotI fragment were subcloned into the corresponding sites of pBlueScriptII(SK+) (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA). genomic insert fragments were partially sequenced in order to determine the orientation of the cloned fragments with respect to the cDNA probe since the cDNA was thought to span both fragments. The 1.7 kb EcoRI/Notl fragment was sequenced in its entirety and was found to contain sequences corresponding to the 5' upstream (promoter) region of the pMS8-15 clone.

DNA sequencing of the genomic clone showed sequence identity over the length of the coding portion of the internal ORF of the MS8-15 cDNA clone. Analysis of the region 5' of the observed putative ATG translation initiation site in this genomic clone reveals an obvious TATAAA sequence at -126 from the start of translation (Figure 3). Additionally, the cDNA and genomic sequences match exactly over 88 nucleotides directly upstream of the translation start site, to the point where the partial upstream ORF ends (compare to

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Figure 2). This point of divergence is also 32 nucleotides downstream of the putative TATAAA sequence. In addition, a potential mRNA cap site exists within the proximal 5' upstream region (indicated in Figure 3). A sequence showing similarity to a transcription factor binding site is present at about 220 nucleotides upstream of the ATG. This site shows homology to both the CAAT box binding factor site and the NF1 binding site in some mammalian promoters such as the albumin promoter (Cell 48: 79). The GC content falls to 44% in the first 1000 base pairs of the promoter. There is also a significant number of poly(T) stretches in the distal 5' region of the promoter. In addition, there are polypyrimidine repeats consisting of five to six T residues followed by CTC (TTTTTCTC) at -358, -437 and -804 respectively. Deletion or mutation analysis could help determine the functionality associated with these repeated sequences.

EXAMPLE 2. Construction of MS8-15 Promoter Expression Vectors

As a result of our previous success using PCR to amplify putative promoter sequences of plant genes for testing functionality in transgenic plants (Baszczynski et al., unpublished), we adopted this approach to design a pair of oligonucleotide primers (see Materials and Methods) that would simultaneously allow amplification of the target promoter sequence and provide convenient restriction sites at the ends of this promoter for cloning into plant transformation vectors (Boutilier, et al. Plant Mol. Biol. 26:1711-1723. 1994). The MS8-15 promoter is defined as the 1012 bp of the MS8-15 gene which lies adjacent to and upstream of the deduced AUG translation initiation codon. It is also understood that shorter regions of said MS8-15 promoter, as could be generated and studied using deletion analysis techniques, may provide the sufficient tissue-preferred levels of gene expression The nucleotide sequence of the final PCR amplified product is shown in Figure 4 and SEQ ID NO.:4, which, following appropriate digestion was used to generate two vectors as shown in Figures 5 and 6. pPHI8245 (Figure 5) simply contains the MS8-15 promoter in pBlueScriptII (SK+) (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA) for use in subsequent cloning. pPHI5933 (Figure 6) is a plant transformation vector comprising the MS8-15 promoter and the uidA (GUS) gene to test the functionality of the promoter in transgenic plants.

Two oligonucleotides were synthesized and used to amplify, by PCR, 1012 bp of the 5' region directly upstream of the deduced AUG translation initiation codon as

determined by sequence alignment to the cDNA sequence and presence of promoterassociated sequences such as the TATA box. The oligonucleotides included additional 5' sequence to add restriction sites to aid in cloning the final PCR amplified product. Oligonucleotide D02461 (5'CCGGTTAACTCTAGAGGGTAGCAGAGCATAGTCAGTG SEQ ID NO.: 4), complementary to the 5' end of the putative promoter, included Xbal introduced Hpal and sites. Oligonucleotide D02460 (5'-GCCGTCCATGGCGATGGTGCC; SEQ ID NO. 5), complementary to the antisense strand at the 3' end of the putative promoter, contained sequences designed to introduce by mutation an NcoI site at the ATG start codon. The NcoI site was generated in order to create translational fusions with other genes of interest.

Ten ng of template DNA of the 1.7 kb EcoRI/NotI fragment was combined on ice with 50 ng of each of primers D2460 and D02461 in a 50 ul reaction mix containing (final concentrations) 50 mM KCl, 10 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8.3), 2 mM MgCl₂ 0.001% gelatin, 200 uM of each of dATP, dCTP, dGTP and dTTP, and 5U of AmpliTaq polymerase (Perkin-Elmer/Cetus, Norwalk, CT). The reaction tube was heated at 94°C for 2 minutes to denature template DNA and then subjected to 30 cycles of 1 minute at 94°C, 2 minutes at 63°C and 2.5 minutes at 72°C, followed by a 10 minute final incubation at 72°C using a Perkin Elmer Thermal Cycler 480. A sample of the PCR amplified promoter was digested with XbaI and NcoI, and cloned into the corresponding sites of pBlueScriptII (SK+) (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA) to produce vector pPH18245. A second sample of the PCR amplified promoter was digested with XbaI and NcoI, combined with a 2188 bp NcoI/EcoRI fragment containing the *uidA* (GUS) gene fused to the 3' non-coding region (terminator) from a potato proteinase inhibitor (PinII) gene, and cloned together into the XbaI/EcoRI sites of pBlueScriptII (SK+) to yield pPHI5933.

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EXAMPLE 3. Analyses of MS8-15 Promoter Expression in Transgenic Maize

It was necessary to demonstrate that said MS8-15 promoter region would drive gene expression in a tissue-preferred manner in vivo. A model system was generated which allowed for testing of the MS8-15 promoter expression vector in maize. DNA of the plasmid pPHI5933 or of an insert region from pPHI5933 that excluded the pBlueScriptII(SK+) vector sequences was used to stably transform regenerable maize Hi-II callus cultures via the particle gun bombardment method. The method utilized for

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transfection of various types of plant cells or plant tissues may also include but is not limited to liposome-mediated transfection, calcium phosphate-mediated transfection, bacterial- or viral-mediated gene transfer, electroporation, or Agrobacterium-mediated transformation. A second vector, either pPHI5675 carrying the bar selectable marker gene behind a CaMV 35S promoter or pPHI5702 carrying the PAT selectable marker gene behind the CaMV 35S promoter, was co-bombarded and used to select for transformed events. Vector or inserts in which the uidA gene was under the control of a CaMV 35S promoter (pPHI264) were bombarded in parallel experiments for comparison of promoter activities. Immediately after bombardment, Hi-II culture events were incubated at 27°C in the dark for 6 days followed by transfer to selective media containing 3 mg/L bialophos (Meiji Seika, Japan). About 6 weeks later putative transformed colonies were transferred onto regeneration media. After several weeks, developing embryos or scutellar structures were transferred and cultured separately in the light and transgenic maize plantlets were recovered.

Following regeneration of plantlets in test tubes from HiII callus cultures, five seedlings of each event were stained in McCabe's stain to select positive events to take to the greenhouse. For all events that exhibited some GUS staining in seedlings, sibling plants were potted and grown to maturity in the greenhouse. Following regeneration of up to 15 transgenic (TO) plants per event, ears were pollinated with HG11 pollen and allowed to mature in the greenhouse. At 5-9 days after pollination (dap), samples from each of the flag leaf, the leaf below the ear node (mid-leaf), midrib, leaf collar, upper stem, lower stem, root and ear section were collected and processed. For visual analysis of promoter activity, the plant tissues from transgenics were incubated for 18-36 hours in McCabe's stain. Transgenics with equivalent 35S-GUS constructs and negative control transgenics were assayed also for comparison. Additionally, small segments of maize tissues were frozen in liquid nitrogen, and used for quantitative GUS assays via the GUS-LightTm chemiluminescent detection system using conditions and solutions specified by the manufacturer (Tropix, Inc., Bedford, MA). Total soluble protein concentrations were measured using the BCA protein assay (Pierce, Rockford, IL) and BSA as a standard. Two ul of extract from two samples of tissue collected from two plants of each event were used for each determination. GUS expression was expressed as ng GUS/mg protein (ppm) and plotted for all transgenic events analyzed. T1 seed collected from sibling plants

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allowed to complete development were grown to maturity in the greenhouse, and samples were collected and analyzed again as for the T0 plants.

In all positive seedling events stained with McCabe's stain and observed visually, prominent GUS expression was observed primarily along the vascular bundles in the basal portion of the leaf and sheath, with some expression also in other regions of the leaf blade. Roots exhibited no expression in any of the seedlings stained. Tissues from the mature transgenic plants generally showed low levels of GUS staining. A positive 35S-GUS control event stained intensely in most tissues and stages examined. The GUS-LightTM chemiluminescence detection system and the BCA protein assay were used subsequently to quantitate the amount of GUS protein expression in the different tissues. summarizes GUS expression data in T1 plants for each of the tissues examined for several events recovered from transformation with pPHI5933, or for two events recovered with the CaMV 35S promoter-GUS construct (pPHI264), one which was positive and one negative for GUS expression. Each point represents one sample analyzed for GUS expression. There is clearly variation in expression levels between events, as is typically observed in plant transformation experiments utilizing methods such as particle gun bombardment. This variation may be attributable to multiple or varying integration sites (position effects), DNA rearrangement during integration, or event-specific transgene quieting or instability. The data reveals that while the MS8-15 promoter is a weaker promoter than 35S, MS8-15 exhibits preferred expression in leaf tissues in those events showing expression. Events 1-25 and 2-27 exhibited the strongest expression among all MS8-15 events in both the T0 (not shown) and T1 generations (Table I). Although expression is not restricted exclusively to leaves, this tissue preference offers utility where it is desirable not to have strong expression of transgenes in all plant tissues. Additionally, higher levels of expression, such as with the CaMV 35S promoter or the maize ubiquitin promoter (Christensen et al., 1992), may not be required or desired in certain applications, as with expression of highly efficacious [e.g., crylA(b)] or potentially cytotoxic (e.g., RNAase) gene products. This promoter thus provides a suitable alternative for expressing genes in plants.

While a preferred form of the invention has been shown in the drawings and described, since variations in the preferred form will be apparent to those skilled in the art, the invention should not be construed as limited to the specific form shown and described,

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but instead is as set forth in the claims.

SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

5

(i) APPLICANT: Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.

Darwin Building, 7100 N.W. 62nd Avenue, P.O. Box 1000

Johnston, Iowa 50131 United States of America

10

- (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: Maize Promoter Sequence for Leaf- and Stalk-Preferred Gene Expression
 - (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 5

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- (iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:
 - (A) ADDRESSEE: Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.
 - (B) STREET: Darwin Building, 7200 N.W. 62nd Avenue, P.O. Box 1000
 - (C) CITY: Johnston
- 20 **(D) STATE: IA**
 - (E) COUNTRY: USA
 - (F) ZIP: 50131
 - (v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
- 25 (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
 - (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
 - (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
 - (D) SOFTWARE: Word Perfect 6.1
- 30 (vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA: PCT UNASSIGNED
 - (A) APPLICATION NUMBER:
 - (B) FILING DATE:
 - (C) CLASSIFICATION:
- 35 (vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:
 - (A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 08/667,809
 - (B) FILING DATE: 21 June, 1996 (21.06.96)
 - (viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:
 - (A) NAME: JERVIS, Herbert H.
 - (B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 31,171
 - (C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: 0530-PCT
 - (ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:
- 45 (A) TELEPHONE: 515-334-4468
 - (B) TELEFAX: 515-334-6883

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- 21 -

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 1207 base pairs

(B) TYPE: nucleic acid

(C) STRANDEDNESS: single

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA

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(ix) FEATURE:

(A) NAME/KEY: MS8-15FIG2 (B) LOCATION: 1...1207

(D) OTHER INFORMATION: None

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(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

GAATTCCGTT CCTGTCGGAC TGGTGGAAGA AGGCCCTGGA GAGCGAGAAC 50 GTGGACTCGG TGAAGATCAG CAACCGGCTG CACGACACCC CCTGCGTCGT 100 GGTCACCTCC AAGTACGGGT GGAGCGCCAA CATGGAGAAG ATCATGCAGG 150 20 CGCAGACCCT GTCGGACTCG AGCAAGCAGG CGTACATGCG CGGCAAAGAG 200 GGCCTCTCGA TCGCTCATCA GTCGCCAGAG GAGTAGTTGA TCGAGGTGAG 250 TGAGGTTGAA AAGCAGGCGG CGAACAAAGG CACCATCGTC ATGGACGGCG 300 GATACTACGG CGGCCGCGAT CAGCGCTACA GCGGCGGGTA CTACGGCGGC 350 GGTGGCATCG CGACGCCGGG GTACGCTCCG GCGGTCCCGT ACGGGATGTC 400 25 GCAGGTGAAC ATCGAGGGCA ACGGGTGCGG GCGGGCGCTG CCGCCGCAGC 450 CGACCGTGAA GGTGTACTGC CGCGCCAACC CCAACTACGC CATGAGCGTC 500 CGCGACGGGA AGGTGGTGCT GGCGCCGGCG AACCCCAAGG ACGAGTACCA 550 GCACTGGATC AAGGACATGC GGTGGAGCAC GAGCATCAAG GACGAGGAAG 600 GTTACCCGGC GTTCGCGCTG GTGAACAAGG CGACCGGGGA GGCCATCAAG 650 30 CACTCGCTGG GGCAGTCCCA CCCGGTGCGC CTGGTGCCCT ACAACCCGGA CTTTTTGGAC GAGTCGGTGC TGTGGACGGA GAGCCGCGAC GTCGGCAACG 750 GCTTCCGCTG CGTCCGCATG GTCAACAACA TCTACCTCAA CTTCGACGCC 800 CTCCACGGCG ACAAGTGGCA CGGCGGCGTC CGTGACGGCA CCGACGTCGT 850 GCTCTGGAAG TGGTGCGAGG GCGACAACCA GCGCTGGAAG ATCCAGCCCT 900 35 ACTACTGAAC CAACGGATGA TATGACCATC GCGCCCATCG ATCGTGCACA 950 TGCATGCATA CGTACTAGCA GAATAACAGG GGTCTTATCT CCCGAGGCGT 1000 CTTTTGCATG CATGCCAGCA GTTGCATAGA TAAAGCAGGA GCGAGACAAA 1050

GGGTGTTCAT GTATATTGCA GCTGTATCAC TGTATGTATG TGCCATTGTG 1100 CCTTGTAATA ATACATATAA TAATAAAGTT GCTCGGAAAA AAAAAAAAA 1150 AAAAAAAATC TAGAGTCGAC CTGCAGCCCA AGCTTGTATT CTATAGTGTC 1200 ACCTAAA 1207

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(3) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 1997 base pairs

10 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid

- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA

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- (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: MS8-15FIG3
 - (B) LOCATION: 1...1997
 - (D) OTHER INFORMATION: None

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(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

TACCGGGCCC CCCCTCGAGG TCGACGGTAT CGATAAGCTT GATATCGAAT 50 TCTAACTCAA ACGAACATGC CCTTATCGAT TTAGCTAGAG AGATGCGAGG 100 AAAACTCTTA TTAGTATTGT TGCTTTGGTG GTGGCGTAGA TAAAATAGAG 150 25 CAAATAGAAA GGCACATCAG AGGTGGCACT GGAGACGATG TTGACAGTGG 200 CGTCGCACTT CCTCTCGAAG CTCGACCATG CCTGGCAGCA CAACGTGTAT 250 GACCCGCATG ACGCCCTCGA CGTTGACCTA GATCAGTTGC GCAGCAGCTC CTCATCCACC CCGTGCCAGT AGTGCGCGTA CGGATAAGAC AACCCATCAT 350 AGCCATGGAT GGAGTCTCGA GCATCTCGAC GCCGGCCACC AGCCCCTCGA 400 30 GATCCTTGCT GGAGGCGCGG GCGTCGAGGA GGAGGAGATG GGCGAAGGTG 450 AGGGAGGGA CCAAGGGGT CTATCGCGGT AGGACAGGGG GCCAGGAAGG 500 CAGGGGCAAC ACATGGGGGC AGCACAAGCA GGGGCCGGAG TGGAGGGAGG 550 CAAGGATGGT AGGCGTTTGG CGTCGCGAAG GAGGCGAGGA GCGCGGTGCA 600 GCGGTGCATG GAACGCGGGA TGGGCTTGCG ACTGACGATG GCGTGGAGGG 650 35 ACGACATCAG TATAGATGGC CAAATGGGTC GTACCTATCA GACTGGCCTG 700 AAGTACGAAC CATTTAATAG TGTCGTGGCC CAACCTGACA TTATTAAAAT 750 GGGCTCGTGC CAGCACGGCA CGAGAGGCGT GCCATGCTTG AGCCGTTGTC 800 TCGGCCCGTA GTGCCGGTTT GGCCTAATAT GATTATTTT TTATTATTTT 850

GAAAACTCAG CCGACACATA TTTATAACAC CTATTGACTA TTAGGCACAA 900 ACTTGATTGG GCTCAAGTGG GTAGCAGAGC ATAGTCAGTG TCTGTTGCCT 950 TTACCAAGGC GCACGGGTTT GATCCCCCTC CCTGCGCTAT AATTTTGGAC 1000 TATTITTCTA TAGGCGTCGA GACGAAGCAT GATTCCACCA GTGATCTACA 1050 CTATTATCTT AATATGTAGT AGAGATAGAG ATTTTATAGA TTCAGACCCC 1100 TAAACCTTTA ATGAGATTAT TTTTCTCAGC TACTCAAATA AAGGGGAGAA 1150 CTCTCCTCCC CAATTAACCG TTTTTTTCTT CATATTTTCT ACACTACATA 1200 TGCCTAAAAT AAATAATTGA GAGATGAGTT AAGAGAAAGA AAAGGTAATG 1250 TATAATGCTG GTTTTCAGGA TGGTTGGTTT TAAGATCTAA TTGTTATTAT 1300 TCACCGCCTA AACGAACCTT TAAAATAAGA CATAACACAG CTCCTTAATT 1350 10 TCTCATTGGG CATGGAGTTT TCTTGTTTTG CTGGAGAGAA AGAAGACCTT 1400 TGAAATTTCA AAACACTCTT TTGTGGCTAG TTTGAAAACT CGAATCATCT 1450 CCAGGATCGA CCGGAATTAG GGAATAAATA AACTATTITT TCTCTCAATC 1500 TCAAAGACAA TTTAAGTTTC CAAACTAGCG ATTAATCTTA ACCAATGACT 1550 AGACTITGTG TTGGTTTTTT CTCTTACTGC TGGAGATGCT AAGGATTCTT 1600 15 CTTCCAAGAA CGACTAGAAA CCGAATCGCT TTTTCCCTCG GCTAGTTTCG 1650 CATGGCATCG TCCTTCCTGC CCATGCGCGC ACAACCATCC ATCCACTGAC 1700 GATGCGATGC CTACCCACCA CCTCGCGCAG CGTGATGCTA ACGCCACCAC 1750 ATGCACCACC AGTGGGGCAG CTGGGGACGC CGGGAGCAAC CGGCAGCGCC 1800 CTATAAATCT GCCGGCCCGG CCGTTGCATT GTCTGCGTCA GGGCCTCTTG 1850 20 ATCATCAGTC GCCAGAGGAG CTGTTGATCG AGGTGAGTGA GGTTGAAAAG 1900 CAGGCGGCGA ACAAAGGCAC CATCGTCATG GACGGCGGAT ACTACGGCGG 1950 CCGCCACCGC GGTGGAGCTC CAGCTTTTGT TCCCTTTAGT GAGGGTT 1997

25 (4) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 1033 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- 30 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA
- 35 (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: MS8-15FIG4
 - (B) LOCATION: 1..18
 - (D) OTHER INFORMATION: None
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

CCGGTTAACT CTAGAGGGTA GCAGAGCATA GTCAGTGTCT GTTGCCTTTA 50 CCAAGGCGCA CGGGTTTGAT CCCCCTCCCT GCGCTATAAT TTTGGACTAT TTTTCTATAG GCGTCGAGAC GAAGCATGAT TCCACCAGTG ATCTACACTA TTATCTTAAT ATGTAGTAGA GATAGAGATT TTATAGATTC AGACCCCTAA 200 5 ACCTTTAATG AGATTATTTT TCTCAGCTAC TCAAATAAAG GGGAGAACTC 250 TCCTCCCCAA TTAACCGTTT TTTTCTTCAT ATTTTCTACA CTACATATGC 300 AATGCTGGTT TTCAGGATGG TTGGTTTTAA GATCTAATTG TTATTATTCA 400 CCGCCTAAAC GAACCTTTAA AATAAGACAT AACACAGCTC CTTAATTTCT 450 10 CATTGGGCAT GGAGTTITCT TGTTITGCTG GAGAGAAAGA AGACCTTTGA 500 AATTTCAAAA CACTCTTTTG TGGCTAGTTT GAAAACTCGA ATCATCTCCA 550 GGATCGACCG GAATTAGGGA ATAAATAAAC TATTTTTTCT CTCAATCTCA 600 AAGACAATTT AAGTITCCAA ACTAGCGATT AATCTTAACC AATGACTAGA 650 CTTTGTGTTG GTTTTTCTC TTACTGCTGG AGATGCTAAG GATTCTTCTT 15 700 CCAAGAACGA CTAGAAACCG AATCGCTTTT TCCCTCGGCT AGTTTCGCAT 750 GGCATCGTCC TTCCTGCCCA TGCGCGCACA ACCATCCATC CACTGACGAT 800 GCGATGCCTA CCCACCACCT CGCGCAGCGT GATGCTAACG CCACCACATG 850 CACCACCAGT GGGGCAGCTG GGGACGCCGG GAGCAACCGG CAGCGCCCTA 900 TAAATCTGCC GGCCCGGCCG TTGCATTGTC TGCGTCAGGG CCTCTTGATC 950 20 ATCAGTCGCC AGAGGAGCTG TTGATCGAGG TGAGTGAGGT TGAAAAGCAG 1000 GCGGCGAACA AAGGCACCAT CGCCATGGAC GGC 1033

(5) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:

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- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 37 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- 30 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: oligonucleotide
 - (ix) FEATURE:
 - (A) NAME/KEY: DO2461NEWMOL
 - (B) LOCATION: 1..37
 - (D) OTHER INFORMATION: None
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:

CCGGTTAACT CTAGAGGGTA GCAGAGCATA GTCAGTG...37

(6) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:

5

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 21 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- 10 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
 - (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: oligonucleotide
 - (ix) FEATURE:
- 15 (A) NAME/KEY: D02460a
 - (B) LOCATION: 1..21
 - (D) OTHER INFORMATION: None
 - (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

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GCCGTCCATG GCGATGGTGC C 21

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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

Claim 1.

A method for isolation of plant tissue-preferred genes comprising, in combination, the steps of:

preparing recombinant cDNA libraries from at least two separate tissues of a plant, and;

preparing RNA from said certain tissues of said plant, and;

labeling said RNA to make labeled RNA or using said RNA to construct a labeled cDNA probe, and;

screening of said recombinant cDNA libraries with said labeled RNA or said labeled cDNA probe, and;

isolating members of said recombinant cDNA libraries that demonstrate increased hybridization in at least one of said tissues of said plant;

whereby said members of said recombinant cDNA libraries represent genes expressed in a tissue-preferred manner in said plant.

Claim 2

The method of claim 1 wherein said recombinant cDNA libraries and said RNA are prepared from maize tissues.

20 Claim 3.

An isolated and purified subchromosomal DNA molecule that encodes a MS8-15 gene or a fragment thereof.

Claim 4

An isolated and purified subchromosomal DNA molecule as shown in SEQ ID NO.:1.

Claim 5.

A DNA molecule of claim 4 comprising a MS8-15 open reading frame.

Claim 6.

A DNA molecule comprising a transcriptional regulatory region of a MS8-15 gene.

Claim 7.

An isolated and purified subchromosomal DNA molecule as shown in SEQ ID NO.:2.

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Claim 8.

A process of preparing a DNA molecule comprising a transcriptional regulatory region of a plant gene comprising, in combination, the steps of:

amplification of DNA representing the transcriptional regulatory region of a plant gene to create an amplified DNA molecule, and;

cloning of said amplified DNA molecule into a DNA vector;

whereby a DNA construct including a transcriptional regulatory region of a plant gene and DNA vector sequence is constructed.

Claim 9.

A method of claim 8 wherein amplification is achieved using synthetic oligonucleotides having complementary sequence to a MS8-15 gene.

Claim 10.

The oligonucleotide as shown in SEQ ID NO.:3.

Claim 11.

The oligonucleotide as shown in SEQ ID NO.:4.

Claim 12.

A DNA molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO.:5.

Claim 13.

A DNA molecule of claim 8 that comprises a reporter gene encoding an assayable product.

Claim 14.

A DNA molecule of claim 8 that comprises an effector gene.

Claim 15.

A DNA molecule of claim 13 or 14 wherein said transcriptional regulatory region comprises the nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 3.

Claim 16.

A method of generating a transgenic plant comprising, in combination, the steps of: transformation of regenerable cultures or tissue segments with a transgene

comprising a reporter or effector gene under the transcriptional control of a transcriptional regulatory region of a gene expressed in a green tissue-preferred manner in a plant, and;

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regeneration of said regenerable cultures or tissue segments into mature plants; whereby a transgenic plant that demonstrates green tissue-preferred gene expression of said reporter or effector gene product of said transgene is generated.

Claim 17.

A method of determining green-tissue preferred gene expression within a transgenic plant comprising, in combination, the steps of:

transformation of regenerable cultures or tissue segments with a transgene comprising a reporter or effector gene under the transcriptional control of a transcriptional regulatory region of a gene expressed in a green tissue-preferred manner in a plant, and;

regeneration of said regenerable cultures or tissue segments into mature plants, and;

harvest of samples of certain regions of said mature plant, and;

assay of said samples of said certain regions of said mature plant for the presence of said assayable product; whereby the ability of said green tissue-preferred transcriptional regulatory region to direct green tissue-preferred gene expression is determined by detection of said assayable product in said samples of said specific regions of said mature plant.

Claim 18.

The method of claim 16 or 17 wherein said green tissue-preferrred transcriptional control region is a transcriptional control region of a MS8-15 gene.

Claim 19.

The method of claim 16 or 17 wherein said regenerable cultures are maize or regenerable maize Hi-II callus cultures.

Claim 20.

The method of claim 16 or 17 wherein said tissue segments are maize zygotes, embryos, axillary buds, leaf bases, immature ears or immature tassels.

Claim 21.

A method of conferring a selective advantage to a plant comprising, in combination, the steps of:

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construction of a DNA molecule comprising an effector gene that directs expression of a gene product capable of conferring a selective advantage upon a plant transcriptionally regulated by a transcriptional regulatory region of a gene that exhibits tissue-preferred expression, and;

generation of a transgenic plant having said DNA molecule incorporated into the genome of the plant; whereby said transgenic plant demonstrates a selective advantage over non-transgenic plants of the same species.

Claim 22.

The method of claim 21 wherein said transgenic plant is a maize plant.

Claim 23.

The method of claim 21 wherein said selective advantage comprises resistance to insect pests.

Claim 24.

The method of claim 21 wherein said transcriptional regulatory region is a transcriptional regulatory region of a MS8-15 gene.

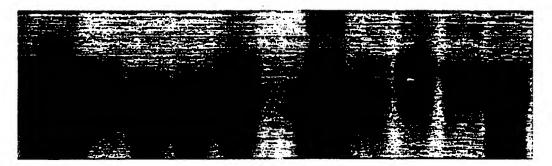
Claim 25.

The method of claim 21 wherein said selective advantage comprises resistance to insect pests and said transcriptional regulatory region comprises a transcriptional regulatory region of a MS8-15 gene.

Claim 26.

The method of claim 24 wherein said insect pests include the European Corn Borer.

Leaf
blade
Leaf
whorl
Leaf
collar
Stalk
rind
Stalk
pith
Sil
k
Stalk
node
4 dap
seed
14 dap
seed
27 dap
seed
27 dap
seed
Seed



pMS8-15 northern analysis

Figure 1: Northern blot of total RNA from different maize tissues probed with an internal fragment of the pMS8-15 cDNA clone.

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GRP 90 HOMOLOGUE -SEOUENCE

EcoR1

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GAATTCCGTTC CTG TCG GAC TGG TGG AAG AAG GCC CTG GAG AGC GAG AAC GTG GAC
           Leu Ser Asp Trp Trp Lys Lys Ala Leu Glu Ser Glu Asn Val Asp
TCG GTG AAG ATC AGC AAC CGG CTG CAC GAC ACC CCC TGC GTC GTC GTC ACC TCC
Ser Val Lys Ile Ser Asn Arg Leu His Asp Thr Pro Cys Val Val Val Thr Ser
AAG TAC GGG TGG AGC GCC AAC ATG GAG AAG ATC ATG CAG GCG CAG ACC CTG TCG
Lys Tyr Gly Trp Ser Ala Asn Met Glu Lys Ile Met Gln Ala Gln Thr Leu Ser
GAC TCG AGC AAG CAG GCG TAC ATG CGC GGC AAA GAGGGCCTCTCGATCGCTCATCAGTCGC
Asp Ser Ser Lys Gln Ala Tyr Met Arg Gly Lys - SDP
```

CAGAGGAGTAGTTGATCGAGGTGAGTGAGGTTGAAAAGCAGGCGGCGAACAAAGGCACCATCGTC ATG

GAC GGC GGA TAC TAC GGC GGC CGC GAT CAG CGC TAC AGC GGC GGG TAC TAC GGC Asp Gly Gly Tyr Tyr Gly Gly Arg Asp Gln Arg Tyr Ser Gly Gly Tyr Tyr Gly GGC GGT GGC ATC GCG ACG CCG GGG TAC GCT CCG GCG GTC CCG TAC GGG ATG TCG Gly Gly Gly Ile Ala Thr Pro Gly Tyr Ala Pro Ala Val Pro Tyr Gly Met Ser CAG GTG AAC ATC GAG GGC AAC GGG TGC GGG CGG CTG CCG CAG CCG ACC Gln Val Asn Ile Glu Gly Asn Gly Cys Cys Arg Ala Leu Pro Pro Gln Pro Thr GTG AAG GTG TAC TGC CGC GCC AAC CCC AAC TAC GCC ATG AGC GTC CGC GAC GGG Val Lys Val Tyr Cys Arg Ala Asn Pro Asn Tyr Ala Met Ser Val Arg Asp Gly AAG GTG GTG CTG GCG CCG GCG AAC CCC AAG GAC GAG TAC CAG CAC TGG ATC AAG Lys Val Val Leu Ala Pro Ala Asn Pro Lys Asp Glu Tyr Gln His Trp Ile Lys GAC ATG CGG TGG AGC ACG AGC ATC AAG GAC GAG GAA GGT TAC CCG GCG TTC GCG

Asp Met Arg Trp Ser Thr Ser Ile Lys Asp Glu Glu Gly Tyr Pro Ala Phe Ala CTG GTG AAC AAG GCG ACC GGG GAG GCC ATC AAG CAC TCG CTG GGG CAG TCC CAC Leu Val Asn Lys Ala Thr Gly Glu Ala Ile Lys His Ser Leu Gly Gln Ser His CCG GTG CGC CTG GTG CCC TAC AAC CCG GAC TTT TTG GAC GAG TCG GTG CTG TGG Pro Val Arg Leu Val Pro Tyr Asn Pro Asp Phe Leu Asp Glu Ser Val Leu Trp ACG GAG AGC CGC GAC GTC GGC AAC GGC TTC CGC TGC GTC CGC ATG GTC AAC AAC Thr Glu Ser Arg Asp Val Gly Asn Gly Phe Arg Cys Val Arg Met Val Asn Asn

ATC TAC CTC AAC TTC GAC GCC CTC CAC GGC GAC AAG TGG CAC GGC GGC GTC CGT Ile Tyr Leu Asn Phe Asp Ala Leu His Gly Asp Lys Trp His Gly Gly Val Arg GAC GGC ACC GAC GTC GTG CTC TGG AAG TGG TGC GAG GGC GAC AAC CAG CGC TGG

Asp Gly Thr Asp Val Val Leu Trp Lys Trp Cys Glu Gly Asp Asn Gln Arg Trp AAG ATC CAG CCC TAC TGA ACCAACGGATGATATGACCATCGCGCCCATCGATCGTGCACATG

Lys Ile Gln Pro Tyr Tyr . . .

Poly A Tail

Hind III ACCTGCAGCCCAAGCTTGTATTCTATAGTGTCACCTAAA

MS8-15 CDNA -SEQUENCE

FIG.2

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TACCGGGCCC CO	CCCTCGAGG	TCGACGGTAT	CGATAAGCTT	GATATCGAAT	TCTAACTCAA
ACGAACATGC CO	CTTATCGAT	TTAGCTAGAG	AGATGCGAGG	AAAACTCTTA	TTAGTATTGT
TGCTTTGGTG G	TGGCGTAGA	TAAAATAGAG	CAAATAGAAA	GGCACATCAG	AGGTGGCACT
GGAGACGATG T	TGACAGTGG	CGTCGCACTT	CCTCTCGAAG	CTCGACCATG	CCTGGCAGCA
CAACGTGTAT G	ACCCGCATG	ACGCCCTCGA	CGTTGACCTA	GATCAGTTGC	GCAGCAGCTC
CTCATCCACC CO	CGTGCCAGT	CGTGCGCGTA	CGGATAAGAC	AACCCATCAT	AGCCATGGAT
GGAGTCTCGA G	CATCTCGAC	GCCGGCCACC	AGCCCCTCGA	GATCCTTGCT	GGAGGCGCGG
GCGTCGAGGA G	GAGGAGATG	GGCGAAGGTG	AGGGAGGGA	CCAAGGGGGT	CTATCGCGGT
AGGACAGGGG GG	CCAGGAAGG	CAGGGGCAAC	ACATGGGGGC	AGCACAAGCA	GGGGCCGGAG
TGGAGGGAGG C	AAGGATGGT	AGGCGTTTGG	CGTCGCGAAG	GAGGCGAGGA	GCGCGGTGCA
GCGGTGCATG G	AACGCGGGA	TGGGCTTGCG	ACTGACGATG	GCGTGGAGGG	ACGACATCAG
TATAGATGGC C	AAATGGGTC	GTACCTATCA	GACTGGCCTG	AAGTACGAAC	CATTTAATAG
TGTCGTGGCC CA	AACCTGACA	TTATTAAAAT	GGGCTCGTGC	CAGCACGGCA	CGAGAGGCGT
GCCATGCTTG AC	GCCGTTGTC	TCGGCCCGTA	GTGCCGGTTT	GGCCTAATAT	GATTATTTTT
TTATTATTTT G	AAAACTCAG	CCGACACATA	TTTATAACAC	CTATTGACTA	TTAGGCACAA
ACTTGATTGG G	CTCAAGTGG	GTAGCAGAGC	ATAGTCAGTG	TCTGTTGCCT	TTACCAAGGC
GCACGGGTTT G	ATCCCCCTC	CCTGCGCTAT	AATTTTGGAC	TATTTTTCTA	TAGGCGTCGA
GACGAAGCAT G					
ATTTTATAGA T	TCAGACCCC	TAAACCTTTA	ATGAGATTAT	TTTTCTCAGC	TACTCAAATA
			-	Rep	
AAGGGGAGAA C					
TGCCTAAAAT A					
GTTTTCAGGA TO	GGTTGGTTT	TAAGATCTAA	TTGTTATTAT	TCACCGCCTA	AACGAACCTT
TAAAATAAGA C					
CTGGAGAGAA AG	GAAGACCTT	TGAAATTTCA	AAACACTCTT	TTGTGGCTAG	TTTGAAAACT
CGAATCATCT C	CAGGATCGA	CCGGAATTAG	GGAATAAATA	AACTATTTTT	· · · · · ·
					Repeat 2
TCAAAGACAA T					
TTGGTTTTTT C	TCTTACTGC	TGGAGATGCT	AAGGATTCTT	CTTCCAAGAA	CGACTAGAAA
	Repeat				
CCGAATCGCT T					
ACAACCATCC A	TCCACTGAC	GATGCGATGC			
					BINDING SITE
ACGCCACCAC A					
CTATAAATCT G		CCGTTGCATT			ATCATCAGTC
TATA				SDP	
GCCAGAGGAG C				CAGGCGGCGA	ACAAAGGCAC
01 maama 1 = 5	-	- PUTATIVE (asa aaa aa	n aan aan aas
					r GGA GCT CCA
		•		nis Arg GI	y Gly Ala Pro
GCT TTT GTT			1		
Ala Phe Val	rro rue Se	er Gin Giy		•	

FIG.3

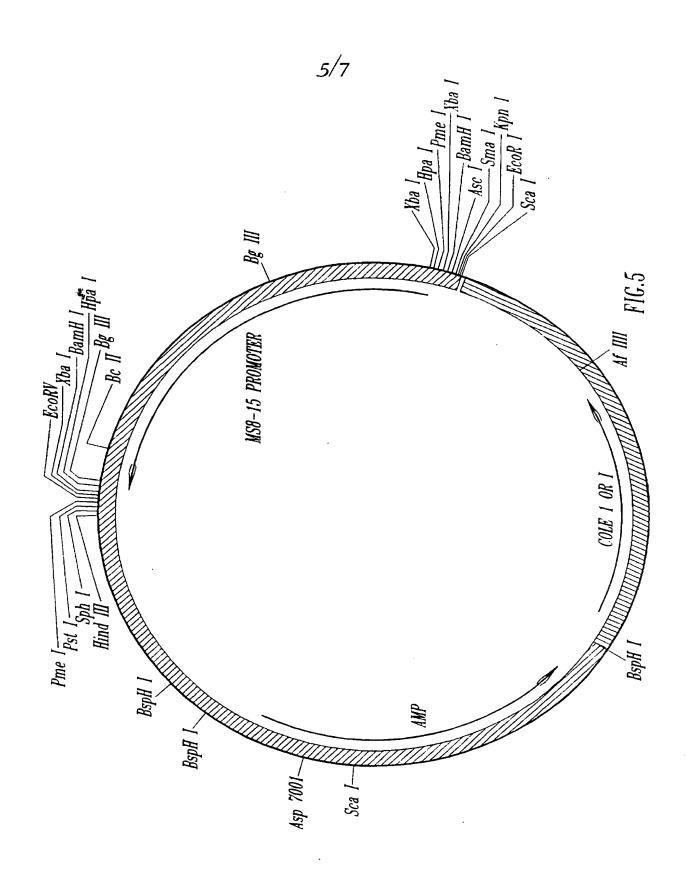
4/7

Hincll Hpal 1 CCGGTTAACT CTAGAGGGTA GCAGAGCATA GTCAGTGTCT GTTGCCTTTA CCAAGGCGCA DO2461 61 CGGGTTTGAT CCCCCTCCCT GCGCTATAAT TTTGGACTAT TTTTCTATAG GCGTCGAGAC 121 GAAGCATGAT TCCACCAGTG ATCTACACTA TTATCTTAAT ATGTAGTAGA GATAGAGATT 181 TTATAGATTC AGACCCCTAA ACCTTTAATG AGATTATTTT TCTCAGCTAC TCAAATAAAG Repeat 3 241 GGGAGAACTC TCCTCCCCAA TTAACCGTTT TTTTCTTCAT ATTTTCTACA CTACATATGC 361 TTCAGGATGG TTGGTTTTAA GATCTAATTG TTATTATTCA CCGCCTAAAC GAACCTTTAA 421 AATAAGACAT AACACAGCTC CTTAATTTCT CATTGGGCAT GGAGTTTTCT TGTTTTGCTG 481 GAGAGAAAGA AGACCTTTGA AATTTCAAAA CACTCTTTTG TGGCTAGTTT GAAAACTCGA 541 ATCATCTCCA GGATCGACCG GAATTAGGGA ATAAATAAAC TATTTTTTCT CTCAATCTCA 601 AAGACAATTT AAGTTTCCAA ACTAGCGATT AATCTTAACC AATGACTAGA CTTTGTGTTG 661 GTTTTTCTC TTACTGCTGG AGATGCTAAG GATTCTTCTT CCAAGAACGA CTAGAAACCG --- Repeat 1 721 AATCGCTTTT TCCCTCGGCT AGTTTCGCAT GGCATCGTCC TTCCTGCCCA TGCGCGCACA 781 ACCATCCATC CACTGACGAT GCGATGCCTA CCCACCACCT CGCGCAGCGT GATGCTAACG CTF/NF1 BINDING SITE 841 CCACCACATG CACCACCAGT GGGGCAGCTG GGGACGCCGG GAGCAACCGG CAGCGCCCTA 901 TAAATCTGCC GGCCCGGCCG TTGCATTGTC TGCGTCAGGG CCTCTTGATC ATCAGTCGCC TATA BOX SDP 961 AGAGGAGCTG TTGATCGAGG TGAGYGAGGT TGAAAAGCAG GCGGCGAACA AAGGCACCAT Ncol 1021 CGCCATGGAC GGC

D02460 FIG. 4

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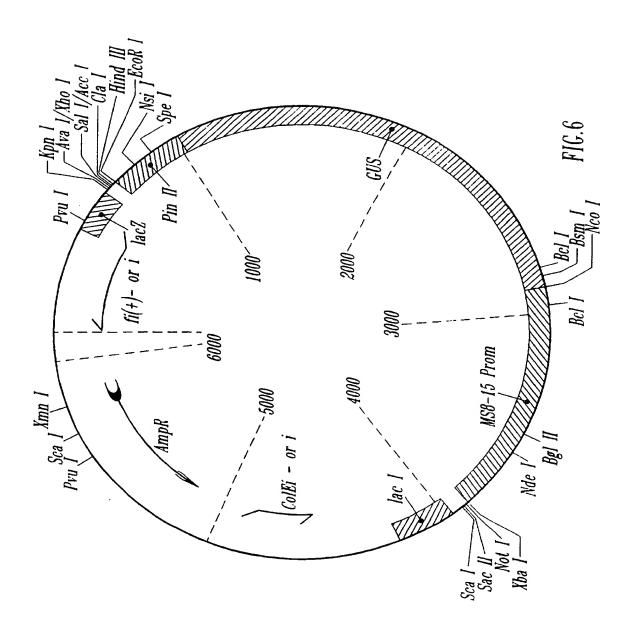
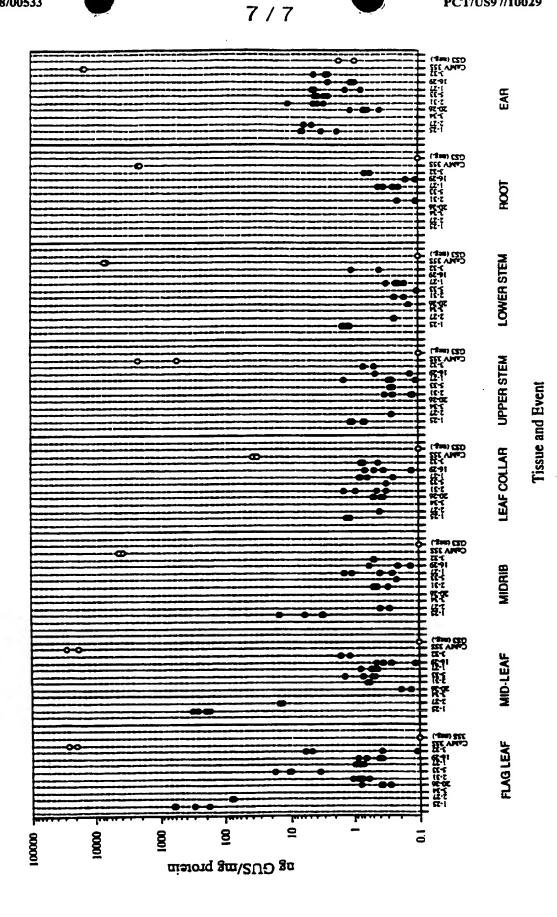


Table 1: pMS8-15 Promoter GUS Expression in T1 Maize Tissues



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(74) Agents: JERVIS, Herbert, H. et al.; Darwin Building, 7100 N.W. 62nd Avenue, Johnston, IA 50131-1000 (US). (81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

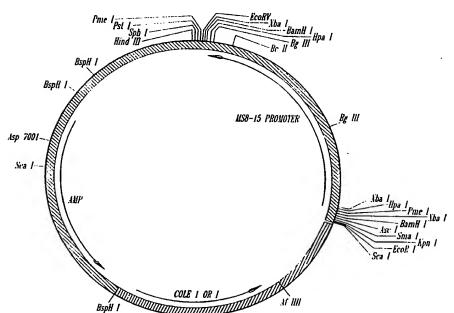
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(57) Abstract

This invention relates generally to mechanisms of gene expression in plants and more specifically to regulation of expression of genes in plants in a "tissue-preferred" manner. Regulation of expression is achieved using a transcriptional regulatory unit capable of driving expression of genes within certain tissues of a plant. Said transcriptional regulatory unit are to be utilized for driving expression of genes effective in the control of insect or other pests which threaten plants.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 6 C12N15/82 C07K C07K14/415 C12N15/29 //C12N15/10,C12Q1/68 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 6 C12N C07K Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category : Relevant to claim No. X EP 0 452 269 A (CIBA GEIGY AG) 1,2,8, 16 October 1991 13,14, 21-23 see page 3, line 45 - page 4, line 9 see page 6, line 40 - page 13, line 1 X BAYSDORFER C : "zEST00814 Maize leaf zea 3,6,7,9, Mays cDNA clone 5' end" EMBL SEQUENCE DATABASE, 8 May 1996, XP002077912 HEIDELBERG DE Accession Nr.: W21735 WO 93 18169 A (INSTITUT FÜR GENBIOLOGISCHE Х 16,17 FORSCHUNG BERLIN) 16 September 1993 see the whole document -/--Χ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are tisted in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publicationdate of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of theinternational search Date of mailing of the international search report 18 September 1998 30/09/1998 : Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, De Kok, A Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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WO 9307278	Α	15-04-1993	US AU BG BR CA CZ EP HU JP SK	5625136 A 2795292 A 98747 A 9206578 A 2120514 A 9400769 A 0618976 A 68261 A 7500012 T 37894 A	29-04-1997 03-05-1993 28-02-1995 11-04-1995 15-04-1993 15-03-1995 12-10-1994 28-06-1995 05-01-1994

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